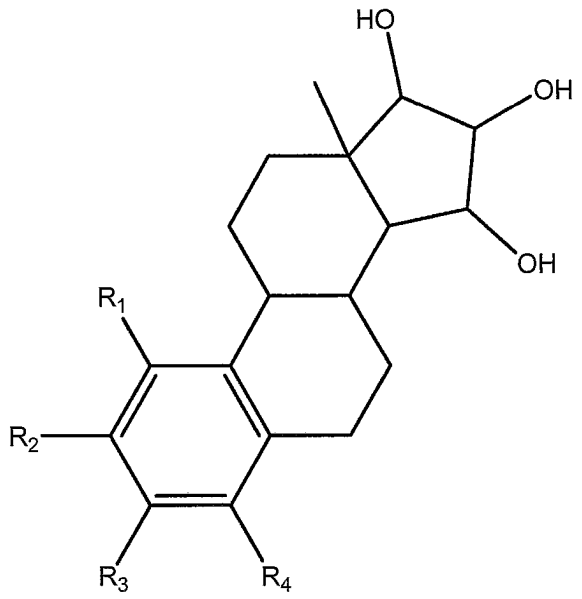
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims

Claims 1-19 (Cancelled)

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): A method of treating or preventing estrogen-suppressed tumours in a mammal, said method comprising the administration of a therapeutically effective amount of an estrogenic component to said mammal, said estrogenic component being selected from the group consisting of:
substances represented by the following formula



in which formula R_1, R_2, R_3, R_4 independently are a hydrogen atom, a hydroxyl group or an alkoxy group with 1-5 carbon atoms;

precursors capable of liberating a substance according to the aforementioned formula when used in the present method; and
mixtures of one or more of the aforementioned substances and/or precursors.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 20, wherein no more than 3 of R_1, R_2, R_3, R_4 are hydrogen atoms.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 20, wherein R_3 represents a hydroxyl group or an alkoxy group.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 20, wherein at least 3 of the groups R_1, R_2, R_3 and R_4 represent hydrogen atoms.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 20, wherein the precursors capable of liberating the estrogenic substance are derivatives of the present estrogen substances, wherein the hydrogen atom of at least one of the hydroxyl groups has been substituted by an acyl radical of a hydrocarbon carboxylic, sulfonic acid or sulfamic acid of 1-25 carbon atoms; tetrahydrofuranyl; tetrahydropyranyl; or a straight or branched chain glycosydic residue containing 1-20 glycosidic units per residue.

Claim 25 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 20, wherein the method comprises uninterrupted administration of the estrogenic component during a period of at least 5 days.

Claim 26 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 20, wherein the method comprises oral, transdermal, intravenous or subcutaneous administration of the estrogenic component.

Claim 27 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 26, wherein the method comprises oral administration.

Claim 28 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 20, wherein the estrogenic component is administered in an amount of at least 1 μg per kg of bodyweight per day.

Claim 29 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 20, wherein the estrogen-suppressed tumours are selected from the group consisting of colorectal tumours and prostate tumours.

Claim 30 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 20, wherein the mammal suffers or has suffered from benign or malign tumours.

Claim 31 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 20, wherein the mammal suffers or has suffered from colorectal tumours.

Claim 32 (Cancelled).

Claim 33 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 20, wherein the mammal is a human female.

Claim 34 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 20, wherein the method comprises co-administration of a progestogen.

Claim 35 (Previously Presented): A pharmaceutical composition containing:

a. at least 0.05 mg of an estrogenic component as defined in claim 20;
b. at least 0.01 mg of an anti-tumour component selected from the group consisting of 5α-reductase inhibitors; anti-androgens; cytochrome $P450_{17\alpha}$ inhibitors; α1 adrenoceptor blockers; and microtubule inhibitors; and
c. a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

Claim 36 (Previously Presented): The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 35, wherein the anti-tumour component is selected from the group consisting of 5α-reductase inhibitors; anti-androgens; and cytochrome $P450_{17\alpha}$ inhibitors.

Claim 37 (Previously Presented): The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 36, wherein the anti-tumour component is selected from the group consisting of finasteride, dutasteride (GI-198745), epristeride, turosteride, lipidosterol extract, cyproterone acetate, osaterone acetate, chlormadinone acetate, flutamide, nilutamide, bicalutamide and abiraterone.

Claim 38 (Previously Presented): A drug delivery system comprising a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 35, said drug delivery system being selected from the group consisting of an oral dosage unit; an injectable fluid; a suppository; a gel; and a cream.

Claim 39 (Previously Presented): A pharmaceutical kit comprising one or more dosage units containing at least 0.05 mg of the estrogenic component as defined in claim 20 and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient; and one or more dosage units containing at least 0.01 mg of an anti-tumour component selected from the group consisting of 5α-reductase inhibitors; anti-androgens; cytochrome $P450_{17\alpha}$ inhibitors; α1 adrenoceptor blockers; and microtubule inhibitors; and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

Claim 40 (Previously Presented): The pharmaceutical kit according to claim 38, wherein the dosage units are oral dosage units.